

Dear partners in ministry,

My 19-month-old granddaughter has me wrapped around her finger. I am glad I do not have to be her primary disciplinarian! She has developed a favorite word. Those of you who have been around two-year-olds might think that you know her favorite word. You might be wrong. Her favorite word is not "no" (though she can use that word correctly in a short sentence!) Her favorite word is "more!"

If she is eating macaroni and cheese or goldfish crackers, as soon as she puts a bite in her mouth, she asks for more. If we are playing and I hold her under her arms and swing her up into the sky, as soon as I get winded and need a break, she looks at me and says "more?" If she and her mom call me in the evening on FaceTime, the first thing she says is, "Boss... more" (her name for me is "Boss" and she wants me to make silly musical-ish noises, so that she can dance). No matter how fun or satisfying the activity or food, she always asks for "more".

Looking back, I am not sure what I expected from 2021. I was really just glad that 2020 was ending. I had many ideas for 2021, but it did not deliver on all that I hoped it would. However, your Baptist Children's Homes found God to continue to be faithful in 2021.

We saw the realization of 2 Corinthians 9:8, "God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work." We experienced the promise from Ephesians 3:20 that we serve, "Him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us." We echo the Apostle Paul when we declare, "to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen." (Ephesians 3:21). We have been reminded that we serve a God of abundance. He offers to give us "more" and He certainly did so in 2021!

In the following pages, you will read stories about how the God who offers sufficiency in all things has granted favor to your work with children and families in Alabama in 2021! In each of these stories and in all the statistics shared, you will be reading not about what we have accomplished. You will be reading about what He has accomplished through you and your support of our ministry.

In 2021, we celebrated our ministry's 130th birthday! As we look forward to 2031, we anticipate celebrating our 140th birthday. In 2021, our Board adopted Vision 140, our strategic plan for the next decade. I hope you will be excited as you read about this plan and the opportunity it affords for you to do more in ministry in the next decade! He is indeed able to do far more than all we ask or think!

It is a privilege to serve alongside you as we seek to **protect**, **nurture**, **and restore children and families through Christ-centered services**. Thank you for partnering with us to experience and to share the abundant blessings of God as we serve others.

God Bless,

Dr. Rod Marshall President/CEO

Marchil





Our Foster Forward ministry helped more children find a safe place to call home.

Children from hard places are served every day in our ministry with the big love that only comes from knowing Christ. With about 6,000 children in foster care in Alabama, there are not enough licensed foster homes in our state to consistently meet their needs. To serve more children and help meet those needs, we introduced a new Foster Care ministry in 2021—Foster Forward.

In providing foster homes, a significant challenge is serving larger sibling groups with a wide range of ages within the group. Many community foster homes do not have the space or support to care for sibling groups of three or more children. That's one of the reasons we have introduced this program. In Foster Forward, families live in one of our large campus homes and can foster anywhere from four to six children at a time, from birth to age 18, just as they would in their own home.

Brandon and Mary Quince Norris have served as ABCH Foster Parents since 2015. This past June, they took another step in their fostering journey in becoming our first Foster Forward parents. They shared how it had been on their hearts for years to have a large foster home, but they thought they would have to build it themselves. They had even started working on house plans for when that time would come.

Mary Quince says, "We had a plan and in the process God kind of dropped this, Foster Forward, into our lap . . . When God makes dreams come true, it can be intimidating. It's never really how you imagine it will be. He delivered it to us radically different than we expected. It was a bigger gift than we were expecting . . . We thought we'd have to build our own house with our own money, and here we have one gifted! It's impossible not to see God's hand on it."

Coming into 2022, we had hoped to see at least one campus home transition to a Foster Forward home. Instead, God blessed us with three families serving in this way! More children are being protected and served with the love of Christ through this new ministry, and we are excited to see what more God has planned for these children and families on our campuses in the future.

IN 2021 . . .

106 children

IN FOSTER CARE WERE REUNIFIED WITH THEIR BIOLOGICAL FAMILIES

345 Children
WERE SERVED IN FOSTER CARE

churches

BEING THE HANDS & FEET OF CHRIST

We couldn't provide the care we do without the support of our church partners. Three of these partners helped make our annual Camp of Champions extra special for our foster families this year. First Baptist Church Decatur, First Baptist Church Trussville, and The Church at Brook Hills all provided items for our "Camp-In" Bags for each of our foster families. With items like indoor s'mores, games and activities, restaurant gift cards and more, these bags were such a hit, and we are so thankful for their support!

You and your church can help children in foster care! Learn how you can help at alabamachild.org/churches.



You equipped youth in foster care to realize their dreams and callings.

Bachelor of Management. Master of Social Work. Doctor of Pharmacy.

Each of these degrees were earned by young men and women who at one time, were in ABCH foster care. Not only do your gifts impact children currently in foster care, but they also help our students in College Care as they pursue their professional dreams and callings. One of our high school seniors this year, Maya*, has been working hard, preparing in big ways, for the coming fall and a new life season in college.

Maya came to us not long after things fell apart in her home. She first entered our short-term care and was later placed in a few other foster homes and with family members. Within a year, circumstances changed for Maya yet again, and this time, we were able to welcome her into one of our campus homes. Maya was so excited when she realized she was coming back to us, and we have since seen her grow and thrive in many ways!

Her social worker, Alex, shares her thoughts about Maya and the hopes she has for the future, "Maya is very future-oriented and is determined to graduate, go to college, and make something of herself. She is in a dual-enrollment program this spring with her high school and a community college. In addition to being so motivated, she's also just a good kid. She's bubbly, appreciative of any act of kindness someone does for her, friendly, and fun to be around!"

Most significantly in 2021, Maya came to know Christ. Alex shares, "Maya has been through a lot, and we are able to provide a place where she knows the love of Christ, and she has accepted Christ as her Savior! Shortly following that decision, she was baptized." Maya has been growing as a believer and as a student.

She has had a big and busy senior year, involved in school clubs, church groups, and community organizations. This past fall, she was elected to her school's homecoming court, an honor she was thrilled to receive! And despite knowing her education would be provided for through our amazing donors, she wanted to reach out and apply for scholarships, and she has received multiple offers!

Through College Care, we come alongside those who graduate high school while living in our homes, providing many levels of support as they pursue college or vocational training. Maya loves the medical field and will be working towards a degree in nursing. Please pray for her and other students in College Care who are getting opportunities to realize their dreams and callings.

IN 2021 . . .

10 students
WERE PROVIDED FOR IN COLLEGE CARE

100% of college costs

ARE COVERED BY DONORS FOR YOUTH WHO GRADUATE HIGH SCHOOL WHILE IN OUR CARE

donors

CREATING A
BETTER FUTURE
FOR YOUTH IN
FOSTER CARE

We all have unique interests and passions that overflow into how we invest our time and financial resources. At ABCH, there are donors who had needs in college in a way that today, has led them to give specifically to help our college students through that life season. *Many of our kids have the amazing ability to graduate college debt-free!* Whether through scholarship funds they've created or special one-time gifts, these donors are making a significant impact in the futures of foster children.

Learn more about how you can build a legacy for future generations of youth in foster care at *alabamachild.org*.



Children across the state are encountering the love of Christ.

Before Trace* and his older brother came into foster care in November of 2020, they experienced neglect, poor living conditions, and a broken home. Shortly after moving into our campus home in Dothan, Trace adamantly expressed to his house parents that he did not believe in God. Because of your support, we are able to help children like Trace experience Jesus Christ in a very real and loving way.

Trace was not a believer, but he still listened in Sunday School and Children's Church. "I once heard him talking to his brother in their room and telling him that he had learned that Jesus was the Messiah and that he died and rose again," said house mom Jennifer McDuffie.

Trace had the opportunity to attend a summer camp at Shocco Springs for foster children. He came back to our home very excited to share news with his house parents that he had surrendered his heart to Jesus and that he was ready to be baptized!

His house parents were thrilled but also wanted to be sure that Trace understood what it meant to have Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior. Trace shared with them several Bible verses that he learned from camp and explained what it meant to be a Christian. Trace's children's minister provided a book for him to work through with the McDuffies to ensure that he truly understood what it meant to be a Christ-follower.

As they walked through daily devotions each night and discussed the Bible, it was obvious to the McDuffies there was a change in Trace. His life would be forever changed because of the Gospel. Jennifer shares, "We saw an excitement about his new identity in Christ. We also saw a desire in him to be better, to be more like Jesus. Though he continued to struggle with behaviors, he slowly began to say he was sorry when he recognized that he had done wrong."

Trace went on to share his newfound faith in Christ with his church family and was baptized this year!

*Name and photo have been changed for privacy purposes.

IN 2021 . . .

17 children

IN CAMPUS CARE WERE REUNIFIED WITH THEIR BIOLOGICAL FAMILIES

68 children

WERE PROVIDED SAFE AND LOVING HOMES IN CAMPUS CARE

praying MAKES A DIFFERENCE

Trace is one of 6,000 kids in foster care in Alabama who are in hard places. Hundreds of these children are placed every year in our safe and loving homes, and our hope is that all the kids in our care find rest and healing in Jesus Christ. There are many ways you can make a difference, and one of the biggest ways is by praying for them! Pray that these sweet children find help, hope, healing, and comfort in Jesus.

You can find more specific ways to pray with us daily or through our Prayer Partner monthly emails at alabamachild.org/pray.



Your support helped even more families find stability.

Before Stephanie and her two youngest children came to live at our Gardendale Family Care home, they had been going from house to house, sleeping on couches and in the spare bedrooms of strangers. Stephanie explains, "My husband and I were divorced at the time, and I had custody of our two children. The children and I were homeless, and I was actually in cosmetology school." She knew this wasn't the safe, stable environment her children needed.

Upon moving into our Family Care home, she says, "I was finally able to be at ease with where my children would sleep at night and not worry about whose couch would be available and if we would be safe anymore." The Family Care program also allowed Stephanie to prioritize her time and finances to eventually be independent. She says it "... allowed me to stop and rethink a lot of things in myself that needed to be changed ..."

We had the opportunity to hear more about those changes and the impact of the Family Care ministry in her and her family's life at our second annual Women of Compassion luncheon in April 2021. Now a graduate of our Family Care program, Stephanie came and shared some of her story with our donors and guests during this special time. She helped us understand where she had been, how God provided, and things He taught her in that season, noting while at Family Care, "The most valuable thing I experienced was the love of Christ"

Another highlight in her testimony was learning that she and her husband were reunited and are happily remarried! Stephanie says today they live a Christ-centered life while homeschooling their two youngest children. We are thrilled for Stephanie and the new start she was able to get through Family Care; a start made possible through donors like you.

When you give to the Children's Homes, you give stability and structure to children who have often moved from room-to-room. You give a struggling mother the chance to experience the love of Christ, sometimes for the first time in her life.

IN 2021 . . .

308
mothers



63 children



WERE
PROVIDED
SAFE
HOMES
THROUGH
FAMILY
CARE

Volunteers MAKING AN IMPACT

In the fall of 2021, we welcomed **44 second graders along with teachers, staff, and parents from Westminster School** at our Alabaster home for their bi-annual Serve Day.

The kids also raised over \$2,000 for ABCH in creative ways including a walkathon, a lemonade stand, and selling necklaces and lanyards. With these funds, they were able to purchase supplies for the house and bring gift baskets for each family that included snacks, fun goodies for the moms, toys for the kids, and more.

There are several ways you can help families in need. Visit alabamachild.org/volunteer to serve at a campus near you!



People are finding healing and hope through Pathways.

Unfortunately, there is never a shortage of hurting people in our world. Across the state, we see people every day who are seeking help and healing through counseling. Dealing with many ripple effects of Covid-19 this year, we continued to see an increased number of clients at Pathways Professional Counseling, so much so that we had to temporarily close our waiting list. However the new Telehealth model, hosting appointments over phone or video, has been extremely effective in helping our Pathways staff and in serving more clients.

In recognizing the differences from seeing clients in person, our therapists have had to think outside the box to ensure counseling needs are fulfilled using Telehealth. Pathways counselor Jessica Grogan shares, "When the pandemic hit, we were able to function and meet people wherever they were."

One client, Mike*, shared with us, "Without Telehealth I would have had no access to counseling and therapy. Instead of being left without services, thanks to the Telehealth opportunities of Pathways, I have undergone therapy to help with past trauma, anxiety, depression, and self-harm. Because of the easy access of Telehealth, my therapist has been able to help me through panic attacks and crisis situations, in which I ordinarily would not be able to drive or communicate outside of my home."

Jessica shares how so much of their work in counseling is working towards building a relationship with clients. She recognizes the hard circumstances people face when meeting with them and the refuge our Pathways team provides, "We are able to be a safe, calming presence. That's been a goal of mine, and I would say a lot of us (counselors and therapists) are able to be calm in the middle of chaos."

Our Pathways counselors have consistently risen to new challenges presented in this chaotic, Covid-19 season. It is because of God's goodness and your support that we can offer excellent and affordable, Christ-centered counseling, whether in person or through Telehealth, and help to change the lives of hurting people in our communities.

Mike has experienced this life change through his time at Pathways and shares, "I didn't realize until my experience with Pathways how useful therapy could be . . . I have recommended Pathways Telehealth to my friends and family members. It has greatly enhanced my quality of life and given me hope."

IN 2021 . . .

increase
IN CLIENTS SERVED
SINCE DEC. 2020

16,457
hours spent
with individuals

28 ministry locations

LOCATIONS ACROSS THE STATE

4,137
individuals
SERVED IN 2021

*Name and photo have been changed for privacy purposes.

FINANCIAL **INFORMATION**

2021 INCOME

TOTAL	\$8,319,597	
Cooperative Program	\$268,724	2.2%
Businesses	\$583,194	4.7%
Foundations & Grants	\$602,199	4.9%
Churches	\$3,002,205	24.4%
Individuals	\$3,863,275	31.3%
FUNDRAISABLE INCOME		

TOTAL	\$2,240,902	
Counseling Services	\$921,239	7.5%
Foster Care & Campus Care	\$1,319,663	10.7%
PROGRAM SERVICE	FEES	

TOTAL	\$1,766,804	
Other Income	\$43,087	0.3%
Estate & Legacy Gifts	\$556,693	4.5%
Distributions from Endowments & Trusts	\$1,167,024	9.5%
OTHER INCOME		

2021 INCOME	\$12,327,303	100.0%

2021 EXPENDITURES

PROGRAM COSTS		
Foster Care	\$4,082,738	33.3%
Campus Care	\$2,508,494	20.5%
Pathways Professional Counseling	\$2,486,361	20.3%
Family Care	\$764,485	6.2%
College Care	\$170,335	1.4%
Family Aid	\$78,591	0.6%
TOTAL	\$10,091,004	

74,178 6,274	3.19
74,178	3.19
9,402	4.29
2,694	10.49
	•

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	\$448,364
----------------------	-----------

The 2021 totals above are unaudited and generally reflect cash received and cash spent during the calendar year 2021. A copy of the complete 2021 independent audit will be



available once it is final.

IVES CHANGE

IN 2021 . . .



children



THROUGH PATHWAYS PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING

RECEIVED BY OUR KIDS

486 奧愛

children served

THROUGH FOSTER CARE, CAMPUS CARE, **COLLEGE CARE, AND FAMILY CARE**

FOREVER HOMES

CEPTED CHRIST AS THEIR LORD AND SAVIOR

WITH BIOLOGICAL FAMILIES



GIVING CHURCHES

- **Hunter Street Baptist Church** (Birmingham)
- **Womack Hill Baptist Church (Choctaw)**
- Trussville First Baptist Church (Birmingham)
- **Church of the Highlands (Birmingham)**
- The Church at Liberty Park (Birmingham)
- Jasper First Baptist Church (Walker)
- **Christ Fellowship Church (Birmingham)**
- **Pell City First Baptist Church (St. Clair)**
- The Church at Brook Hills (Birmingham)
- 10. Henagar Baptist Church (Sand Mountain)
- **Eastern Shore Baptist Church (Baldwin)**
- First Baptist Church of Fairview (East Cullman)

- 13. Shades Mountain Baptist Church (Birmingham)
- 14. Crawford Baptist Church (Mobile)
- 15. New Home Baptist Church Boaz (Blount)
- 16. Silver Run Baptist Church (Russell)
- 17. Huntsville First Baptist Church (Madison)
- 18. Shoal Creek Baptist Church (Morgan)
- 19. Winfield First Baptist Church (Marion)
- 20. Mt. Sterling Baptist Church (Choctaw)
- 21. Decatur First Baptist Church (Morgan)
- 22. Luke 4:18 Fellowship (Mobile)
- 23. Elkton Road Baptist Church (Limestone)
- 24. Evening Star Baptist Church (St. Clair)
- 25. Athens First Baptist Church (Limestone)



VISION 140 LOOKING AHEAD TO 2031

In 2031, we will celebrate our ministry's 140th anniversary. Our vision for that year and for following years is to work toward expanding our ministry and its Kingdom impact.



BY 2031 IN OUR CHILDCARE MINISTRIES, WE SEEK TO:

Serve

1000

foster
children

See 250 biological families reunified

See
50 Control of the second s

See 50 T professions of faith annually

As one united team across the state, we will strive more and more to become a place, "Where Christ creates healing for kids and families from hard places." Our ministry goal is to reflect the model of Jesus, consistently demonstrating compassion, focus on the whole person, and deliberate action to alleviate suffering.

In Mark chapter two, we read of a man who was suffering. His friends knew his need and in compassion, they brought him to Jesus, having faith that He could help and heal their friend. They even took great measures to get him there. You see, this man was not able to get to Jesus on his own, as he was physically paralyzed. He had to depend on his friends to see and care enough to come alongside him and do whatever it would take to get him to the only One who could meet his need.

In your Children's Homes ministry, we see a parallel between the paralyzed man and the vulnerable children who are in need of our care. Their needs are physical, emotional, and spiritual. In the friends in the story, we see our foster parents, social workers, counselors, prayer partners, volunteers, donors, and more—friends who come around these kids in great support, seeing and caring deeply for them. With a child's best interests in mind, they faithfully serve and provide, working hard to meet their needs, ultimately pointing these precious children to the only One who can fully meet their every need.

Just as Jesus was pleased with the faith shown by these men and He healed their friend, it is our hope that God will be pleased with our efforts as together, we come alongside to protect, nurture, and restore children and families in His name. We desire to do the daily, ordinary things He equips each of us for, and we depend on Him to then do what only He can do, bringing hope and healing into their lives today and for eternity. We recognize that Jesus not only healed the man's crippled legs, but also forgave him of his sins. We provide for the children in our care as best as we can, and we especially celebrate when they meet their Savior while in our care!

Visit alabamachild.org/vision140 to learn more about our vision looking ahead to 2031.

LEADER SHIP TEAM

2021 ABCH LEADERSHIP

PRESIDENT/CEO

Rod Marshall, Ph.D., Ed.S, LPC-S

SERVICE TEAM

Chip Colee, Ph.D.

Chief Administrative Officer

Ross Hickman, MBA, LPC-S,

Registered Play Therapist-Supervisor

President, Pathways Professional Counseling

Todd McMichen, M.Div.

Chief Development Officer

Michael Smith, Ph.D., LICSW-PIP, MBA

Chief Operations Officer

AREA & PROGRAM LEADERS

Amber Albright, LICSW-PIP

Area Director, Northeast Alabama

Patrick Fitzgerald

Director of Information Technology

Michelle Glassford

Director of Communications

Lisa Keane, MAMFC, LPC-S, NCC,

Registered Play Therapist-Supervisor

Clinical Director, Pathways

Professional Counseling

Kim McGainey, LICSW-PIP, MA

Area Director, Southeast Alabama

Samantha Parker, MACE

Human Resources Manager

Alex Pool, LMSW

Assistant Director, Decatur

Elise Vincent, LICSW-PIP

Director of Social Services, Birmingham

Haley D. Walker, LMSW

Area Director, Southwest Alabama

Elizabeth Williams, LBSW

Area Manager, Auburn-Opelika and Montgomery

Grace Wood, CPA

Director of Finance & Accounting

2021 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

CHILDREN'S HOMES BOARD

Protect, nurture, and restore children and families through Christ-centered services

Mr. James Bearden, Valley Grande (Secretary)

Mrs. Helen Lee Fisk, Birmingham

Dr. Fred Graham, Tuscaloosa

Dr. Eric Hankins, Fairhope

Mr. Paul Huckeba, Hoover

Mrs. Derry Johnson, Fultondale (Vice Chairman)

Dr. Blake Kersey, Decatur

Mrs. Kelly McMurry, Trussville

Mrs. Leah Stephens, Montgomery (Chairman)

Mr. Wes Talley, Vestavia Hills

Dr. Paul A. Thompson, Dothan

Mr. Stephen Wellborn, Cragford

Mr. Terry Wilhite, Cullman

Mr. Winston Wilks, Henagar

ABCH FOUNDATION BOARD

Support and advance the mission and ministry of ABCH

Mr. Chris Blackerby, Hoover (Secretary)

Mrs. Laura Graham, Tuscaloosa

Dr. Scott Guffin, Vestavia Hills

Mrs. Lori Hardy Ho-Tung, Decatur

Mr. David Lyon, Birmingham (Vice Chairman)

Dr. Rod Marshall, Birmingham (Chairman)

Dr. Robert Record, Birmingham

PATHWAYS PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING BOARD

Restoration through specialized, Christcentered counseling

Mrs. Twinkle Andress Cavanaugh, Montgomery

Dr. Chris Crain, Birmingham

Mrs. Kim DeShazo, Trussville (Secretary)

Dr. Matt Haines, Decatur

Mr. Ken Lass, Trussville

Dr. Rod Marshall, Birmingham (Chairman)

Mr. Alan Taylor, Trussville (Vice Chairman)

HONORARY LIFE MEMBER

Dr. E. Grace Pilot, Mobile

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Dr. Rick Lance, Executive Director/Treasurer Alabama Baptist State Board of Missions, Prattville

Dr. Tim Cox, President

Alabama Baptist State Convention, Chelsea

HOW CAN I HELP CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES?

All of the incredible things that have happened this year would not have been possible without the support of people like you—donors, churches, and volunteers. If you're not yet involved with our ministry, there are several ways you can get involved and help make a difference in the lives of children and families.



Join us in prayer each month as an ABCH Prayer Partner. As part of our prayer family, when you sign up to receive this email, you are signing up to be included in a key piece of God's work here. As you pray for our children and families in care, as well as our foster and house parents, staff, leadership, and others, you are helping us to further impact the Kingdom for His good and glorious purposes!



Volunteers are a vital part of our ministry! We are always encouraged to see individuals, churches, small groups, businesses, and others, partnering with us to impact even more children and families. Here are a few ways to volunteer with us:

BABYSITTING & MENTORING
HOSTING A NEEDS DRIVE
CAMP OF CHAMPIONS & OTHER EVENTS

PROVIDING MEALS FOSTER PARENTING RESPITE CARE PROVIDER



CAMP SPONSORSHIPS

Sponsor a camper for our annual Camp of Champions.

WOMEN OF COMPASSION

Join a community of women who are passionate to help children in need.

HERO PARTNERS

Give monthly to support children and families in care.

ESTATE PLANNING

Trusted ministry partner, The Baptist Foundation of Alabama, is able to provide you will and estate planning assistance from a biblical perspective. This is provided to our supporters at no cost.



Take your next step to get involved in life-changing ministry at alabamachild.org/nextstep.



Why we exist: OUR PURPOSE

The purpose of Alabama Baptist Children's Homes & Family Ministries is to protect, nurture, and restore children and families through Christ-centered services.

The result we hope to see: OUR VISION

Hope and wholeness for children and families through knowing God

2681 Rocky Ridge Lane | Birmingham, AL 35216 | (888) 720-8805 EMAIL: info@alabamachild.org | WEB: alabamachild.org

Our main ministry locations are in Auburn-Opelika, Birmingham, Decatur, Dothan, Mobile, Montgomery, and Oxford. For a complete listing of services available at each, as well as counseling offices around the state, please visit us online at *alabamachild.org*.





